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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/819,955	03/28/2001	Hiroyuki Seki	33455	4211

116 7590 06/30/2005

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/819,955

Applicant(s)

SEKI ET AL.

Examiner

HUY T. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3,5-11 and 13-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagata (5,974,224).

Regarding claim 1, Nagata discloses an apparatus (Fig. 1, column 6, lines 40-65) for decompressing compressed data including a plurality of groups of compressed pictures, comprising:

recording means including at least one random access memory (3) for recording said compressed data,

reading means (4) for reading said compressed data from said recording means,

decompressing means (decoding means) (8) for decompressing said

compressed data read from said recording means by said reading means,

at least one flame memory (91,92,93) for storing said decompressed data

produced by said decompressing means,

picture designating means (4,5,6) for designating said compressed picture to be decompressed (column 5, lines 45-65) , and

control means for controlling said reading means by specifying said group of compressed pictures to be read from said recording means by said reading means based on said picture designated by said picture designating means and controlling said decompressing means by transmitting data of said picture designated by said picture designating means to said decompressing means (column 5, lines 45-65, column 8 lines 35-55.

Method claim 9 corresponds to apparatus claim 1. Therefore method claim 9 is rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claim 1.

Regarding claims 2 and 10, Nagata wherein each of said groups of compressed pictures contains at least one Intra-coded picture and Predictive-coded pictures (Abstract , column 4, lines 54-60, column 7) , said reading means is operated to read said group of compressed pictures containing said picture designated by said picture designating means, said decompressing means is operated to decompress said Intra-coded picture included in said group of compressed pictures read by said reading means and said Predictive-coded pictures between said pictures designated by said picture designating means and said Intra-coded picture included in said group of compressed pictures read by said reading means under the state that said Predictive-coded picture is selected based on said picture designated by said picture designating means, and said predictive-coded picture designated by said picture designating means is decompressed by said decompressing means on the basis of said decompressed

Predictive-coded picture immediately before said picture designated by said picture designating means (column 8, lines 55-65) .

Regarding claim 3 and 11, Nagata further teaches each of said groups of compressed picture contains at least one Infra-coded picture, Predictive-coded pictures, and Bi-directionally-coded pictures (Abstract, column 4 lines 54-60, column 7) , said reading means is operated to read said group of compressed pictures containing said picture designated by said picture designating means, and said decompressing means is operated to decompress the Infra-coded picture included in said group of compressed pictures read by said reading means and said Predictive-coded pictures between said pictures designated by said picture designating means and said Intro-coded picture included in said group of 5 compressed pictures read by said reading means under the state that one of said 13directionally-coded picture is selected as said picture designated by said picture designating means, and said Bidirectionally-coded picture designated by said picture designating means is decompressed by said decompressing means on the basis of said decompressed Predictive-coded picture immediately before said picture designated by to said picture designating means (column 8, lines 55-65).

Regarding claims 5 and 13, Nagata further teaches An apparatus for decompressing compressed data as set forth in any one of preceding claims, wherein said frame memory includes first and second memory sections (81,82 or 83), and each decompressed data produced by the decompressing means with or without said data stored in said first and second memory sections is respectively stored in 20 said second and first memory sections (Fig. 1) .

Regarding claims 6 and 14, Nagata further teaches the frame memory further includes a third memory section for storing said data for displaying pictures while the compressed data are decompressed by said decompressing means. (Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 7, Nagata further teaches said designating means is operated to designate a picture, said control means is operated to transmit said data of said designated picture to said reading means and decompressing means, said decompressing means is operated to have one of said three memory sections to store said data decompressed immediately before said designated picture, and to have said two other memory sections to store said decompressed data, said displaying means is operated to display said pictures decompressed immediately before the designated picture (column 7, lines 1-35, lines 45-55).

Regarding claims 8 and 16, Nagata further wherein each compressed data is decompressed asynchronously with the timing of displaying said picture since each picture is decoded and reproduced with proper timing (display time and decoding time

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagata in view of Wu et al (6,473,558).

Regarding claims 2 and 12, Nagata fails to specifically teaches a display means for displaying the decoded image signal .

Wu teaches using a display means (5), Fig. 1) for displaying the decoded image signal .

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Nagata with Wu by using display means as taught by Wu for receiving the decoded image signal and displaying the image signal for viewing .

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kawamura et al teaches a reproducing apparatus for reproducing groups of pictures from a medium .

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

H.N


HUY T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER